

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 174

97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES HODGES (Sponsor), SCHIEFFER, MCDONALD, KRATKY,
CONWAY (10), BLACK, COLONA, HUMMEL, KIRKTON, RIZZO AND NORR (Co-sponsors).

0189L.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal sections 575.010, 575.350, and 575.353, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof three new sections relating to crimes against police animals, with penalty provisions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 575.010, 575.350, and 575.353, RSMo, are repealed and three new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 575.010, 575.350, and 575.353, to read as follows:

575.010. The following definitions shall apply to this chapter and chapter 576:

(1) "Affidavit" means any written statement which is authorized or required by law to be made under oath, and which is sworn to before a person authorized to administer oaths;

(2) "Government" means any branch or agency of the government of this state or of any political subdivision thereof;

(3) "Highway" means any public road or thoroughfare for vehicles, including state roads, county roads and public streets, avenues, boulevards, parkways or alleys in any municipality;

(4) "Judicial proceeding" means any official proceeding in court, or any proceeding authorized by or held under the supervision of a court;

(5) "Juror" means a grand or petit juror, including a person who has been drawn or summoned to attend as a prospective juror;

(6) "Jury" means a grand or petit jury, including any panel which has been drawn or summoned to attend as prospective jurors;

(7) "Official proceeding" means any cause, matter, or proceeding where the laws of this state require that evidence considered therein be under oath or affirmation;

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

16 (8) "Police animal" means a dog, horse or other animal used in law enforcement or a
17 correctional facility, or by a municipal police department, fire department, **public or private**
18 search and rescue unit or agency, whether the animal is on duty or not on duty. The term shall
19 include, but not be limited to, accelerant detection dogs, bomb detection dogs, narcotic detection
20 dogs, search and rescue dogs and tracking animals;

21 (9) "Public record" means any document which a public servant is required by law to
22 keep;

23 (10) "Testimony" means any oral statement under oath or affirmation;

24 (11) "Victim" means any natural person against whom any crime is deemed to have been
25 perpetrated or attempted;

26 (12) "Witness" means any natural person:

27 (a) Having knowledge of the existence or nonexistence of facts relating to any crime; or

28 (b) Whose declaration under oath is received as evidence for any purpose; or

29 (c) Who has reported any crime to any peace officer or prosecutor; or

30 (d) Who has been served with a subpoena issued under the authority of any court of this
31 state.

575.350. 1. A person commits the crime of killing or disabling a police animal when
2 such person knowingly causes the death of a police animal, or knowingly disables a police
3 animal to the extent it is unable to be utilized as a police animal, when that animal is involved
4 in a law enforcement investigation, apprehension, tracking, or search and rescue, or the animal
5 is in the custody of or under the control of a law enforcement officer, department of corrections
6 officer, municipal police department, fire department [and] **or a public or private search and**
7 rescue unit or agency.

8 2. Killing or disabling a police animal is a class D felony.

575.353. 1. A person commits the crime of assault on a police animal when such person
2 knowingly attempts to kill or disable or knowingly causes or attempts to cause serious physical
3 injury to a police animal when that animal is involved in law enforcement investigation,
4 apprehension, tracking, or search, or the animal is in the custody of or under the control of a law
5 enforcement officer, department of corrections officer, municipal police department, fire
6 department or a **public or private search and** rescue unit or agency.

7 2. Assault on a police animal is a class C misdemeanor.

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